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Celebrates 86th Birthday

The children and family of Sam Megginson celebrated his 86th birthday, May 2, at the Rescue Squad Building. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Sam Megginson, Mr. and Mrs. Riley T. Megginson, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Gilliam, Mrs. Edith Williams, Mr. Johnny Megginson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Megginson, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Nash and H. T., Mrs. "Bo" Phelps and Debbie, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Drinkard, Derry and Denise, Mr. and Mrs. George Williams, Roxanne and Laura, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Williams and Shannon, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Williams and Rob, Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Franklin.

Also Mr. and Mrs. Jim Megginson, of Portsmouth; Mrs. John Megginson, Mrs. Ronnie Hicks and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Marks, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Megginson of Lynchburg; Mrs. Scott Beale, of Prospect, Mr. and Mrs. Watson Brittle and daughter and grandson of Chase City; Mrs. Mary Garrett, Martha and Bernadine, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Campbell and Lisa, Mrs. Sarah Burke and Mrs. Elsie Perkins of Farmville. A bountiful dinner was served. Everybody wished him many more happy birthdays. days.

The Pastor Speaks

LAMB OF GOD

It is generally true that the exercise of any discipline requires familiarity with a vocabulary that is peculiar to that discipline.

If one is working among other cooks in the kitchen it behooves one to learn what the grater is, and what the spatula is, and what the paprika is. Otherwise, time will be wasted and efficiency drops off because

FBLA Girl of the Month

Mary Dyess was chosen outstanding member of the Future Homemakers of America for the month of April. She has been an active member for two years and has participated in many activities such as: attended sumemr planning meeting; worked on Homecoming float; sold tumblers; attended Federation meeting; participated in Christmas program; entered many articles in fair, and taped radio program for FHA week.

She is a member of Vocational Educational Week Committee, Homecoming Float Committee, and chairman of the Social Committee. Mary is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Dyess of Appomattox.

of poor communication.

The exercise of our Christian discipline is no exception to this. We have some words used within the context of our worship that are not everyday street words, though they probably were at one time.

I personally dislike some of the art that depicts our Lord as a beautiful, nearly blond northern European with blue eyes. I picture Jesus as a rugged man with calloused hands and feet. He was probably very dark and often less than what we would call clean. By the same token, I formerly objected to referring to Him as a lamb. To me a lamb is a rather meek and defenseless animal who is almost totally dependent. Jesus was anything but that. Later I came to realize that the "lamb" figure was used only in the sense of Jesus' having been the "Paschal Lamb".

That hasn't helped a bit; has it?

Let's look at the word "pascal" for a moment. We should for we are still in the season of Eastertide, and we will be until the 27th when we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord.

You recall, I am sure, the account of the institution of the Passover as it is written in the 12th Chapter of Exodus. Read it again: refresh your memory. It is quite probable that this feast grew out of a two-fold pagan Spring celebration - agricultural and pastoral. But on this occasion it was given a new and very important dimension.

Those Israelites who were in the Egyptian captivity were commanded to mark their homes with the blood of the slain lamb or goat (Jesus could have become known as the "paschal goat" but through history the lamb figure prevailed). The plague that struck Egypt the night that the Hebrews were involved in this ritual killed all the first-born of the land, but it passed over the houses of the Hebrews whose door posts and lintels were marked with the blood of the slain lamb or goat.

I am sure that you also recall that the escape of the Children of Israel from their enslavement in Egypt is intimately connected to this first Passover event.

The lamb (a yearling, male unblemished lamb) chosen for this occasion and by the blood of which the Israelites were saved from the death - dealing plague is called the "paschal lamb".

The Passover has been celebrated for a long time by the Jews. It was a very important feast at the time of Jesus. Jerusalem was overcrowded at Passover time. I don't see how there can be doubt that the crucifixion of Jesus took place during the Passover season. There certainly was a connection in the minds of the New Testament writers between the significance of the Passover and the significance of Jesus' crucifixion.

The Children of Israel were enslaved in Egypt.

By the blood of the lamb they were saved from death.

They escaped through the Red Sea into the Promised Land.

We were enslaved by the tremendous temptations of our environment to a life that was bound to fall short of being what God wants our life to be.

Through the entire life of Jesus, which includes his spilled blood, we are saved from this ignoble enslavement and its resultant death.

Thus, we Christians continually give thanks to God for Jesus who is to us, among other things, the Paschal Lamb - not meek and defenseless, but completely offered for us, or as we say, sacrificed for us.

Thanks be to God for Jesus of Nazareth - the Christ. Amen.

Rev. Harmon Smith, Vicar
St. Anne's Episcopal Church
Appomattox, Va. 24522

The Sunday School Lesson

COMMENTS BY HERBERT C. BRADSHAW

LESSON FOR MAY 16, 1976

The Challenge of Conformity
Scripture: Joshua 24:1-18; Romans 12

Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

Ask a Latin student about the word conformity and he will tell you that it is derived from two Latin words, cum, meaning with, and formare, meaning to shape or to fashion or to form. The word means, then, shaping or forming something, often one's self, with, or according to the pattern of, something else.

As weighty pressures as we experience are those to conformity. Often these are conflicting, for there are pressures to conformity from a variety of sources. The individual is pressured to conform to the family, to his associations, to society, to the standards of his own generation or that, including the church. Quite early in life the child, from the time he begins to play with others, is pressured to conform to his peer group. Through the school years, this pressure is extremely strong. Pressure to conform to the peer group continues into a person's retirement, unless he demonstrates so strong an individualism that the peer group gives up on him.

We can readily imagine the pressures to conformity with the secular society which were exerted in the capital of the Western civilized world, Rome. Christians there were few, compared with the total population of the world's most populous city. A group no more numerous than they might naturally be expected to be quickly absorbed by the Roman masses and their style of life extinguished. Writing to them, Paul makes no concessions to the pressures the powerful society of Rome was exerting on them to conform to it. Rather the valiant Christian missionary advised them not to be conformed to this world, that is, not to mold the pattern of their lives after the pattern of Roman society.

Instead of conforming to the ideas of the Roman world, the believer was to be transformed. Our Latin student will tell you that this word is derived from trans, meaning across, and formare. it means to shape or form something, in this case one's self, all the way across, that is, to change one's self radically. Such a change is accomplished in the renewal of the mind, that is, by putting into the mind a new standard by which it measures what it considers. In the case under consideration, the will of God becomes the standard of measure.

The believer is to conform to God's standards, rather than the world's. A portion of the book of Joshua has been selected to illustrate this. After the people of Israel had settled in the land of Promise, Joshua called them to an assembly at Shechem. There he called on them for full commitment to God. Nevertheless, although he knew what Israel should do and what he would do and lead his family in doing, Joshua offered alternatives if they were unwilling to serve God. They could return to the pagan religion of their remote ancestors, before Abraham; or they could conform to the religion of the people of the land into which they had moved. Joshua too was urging the people not to be conformed to their world but to be transformed by rededication (a renewal of the mind) to the God of their deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

Joshua's recital of all the blessings God had bestowed on Israel could be matched, and more, by a recital of God's blessings upon us today. God gives to us redemption from slavery to sin as freely as He gave to Israel redemption from slavery in Egypt. He has given us material blessings. As mistakenly as the people of ancient Israel, who so often and in such numbers attributed their prosperity to the deities of Palestine, as their idolatrous neighbors encouraged them to do, we credit ourselves with the blessings we enjoy. We conform to this world, even as we profess allegiance to God, hoping to get the favors of two masters. The more one conforms to this world, though, the less responsive he becomes to God's will. Nothing less than a renewal of the mind through continuing commitment and dedication to God is needed to know and choose the good and acceptable and perfect - the best in life.

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MT. ZION BAPTIST

We are having an appreciation service for our pastor, Rev. Elliott, Sunday evening at 7 p.m. The speaker will be Rev. J. R. Rose of Amherst, Va.

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Virginia Society of Poets
2317 West Broad Street
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5-11-4t

Concord

Brownie Troop 741 held their Bake and Craft sale Saturday at Big Horn Market Saturday, May 8. There was a big turnout and all the cakes, pies and cookies were sold. They held a cake raffle, a big beautiful bicentennial cake of red, white and blue was won by Reba McNeely.

There will be a revival at Calvary Baptist Church in Concord, beginning Sunday morning, May 16, and continuing through Thursday night, May 20. The Rev. James L. Finley, pastor of the Indian River Baptist Church in Chesapeake, Va., will be the guest speaker. Bro. Finley is a graduate of Wake Forest College and Southeast Seminary. He has pastored churches in both North and South Carolina and in Virginia.

Special emphasis will be placed on each week night as follows:

Monday - Pack the Pew Night - 7:30 p. m. (Invite all your friends and family)

Tuesday - Sunday School and Leadership Night (All leaders of the church be present) 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday - Youth Night (Something Special for 7th grade up to 6:45 p.m.)

Thursday - Family Night. (Something special for our younger youth - 1st-6th grades at 6:45 p.m.)

John Hall from Appomattox will be leading in special songs each night. All welcome.

Special gospel singing at Eastbrook Baptist Church near Silver Springs Lake Saturday night, May 15, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Homecoming Day at Eastbrook Baptist May 30, with dinner in the Fellowship Hall. The church will be 17 years old. Robert E. Mills is pastor of Eastbrook Baptist. All welcome.

There will be a talent show at Concord Elementary School May 11 at 8 p.m. This is the last P-TA meeting and talent show of this school year.

That's all for now folks, see you next week.

Faye W. Bryant, Reporter

First Baptist

Impressive services were held Sunday at 11 a.m. Music was rendered by the Junior Choir, under the direction of Miss Wade. Rev. Davis preached an inspiring sermon. He spoke on the subject "Mother". All present enjoyed the message. We were happy to have all our visitors to worship with us. We hope the sick and shut in are improving.

Mrs. Ella Brown and Miss Dura Dillard, children and grandchildren spent Mother's Day with their mothers. They all enjoyed the day. Rev. Davis and his brother visited in the home of Mrs. Brown and Miss Dillard.

Mrs. Elnara Franklin visited in the home of Miss Evelyn Wright and family.

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Sincerely,
Bill Hunter

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Mountain Dew 64 Ounces Non Returnable 64 Oz. Bottle 89¢

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French Style Green Beans 2 cans 49¢
Whole Yellow Corn 2 cans 59¢
Sweet Peas 2 cans 69¢
Yellow Cling Peaches Halves & Sliced 16 Oz. Can 2 for 69¢

Spring Garden Produce:

Tomatoes 3 lbs. $1

Pole Beans lb. 33¢

Apples Winesap 3 lb. bag 69¢

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Red Radishes or Cucumbers 2 for 29¢

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May 13 - noon
May 22

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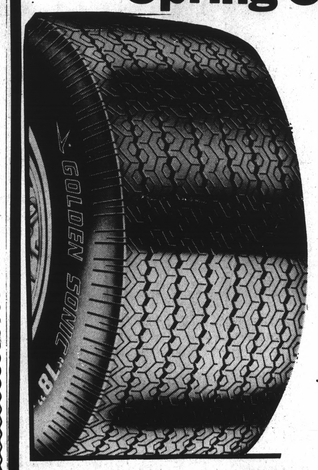

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